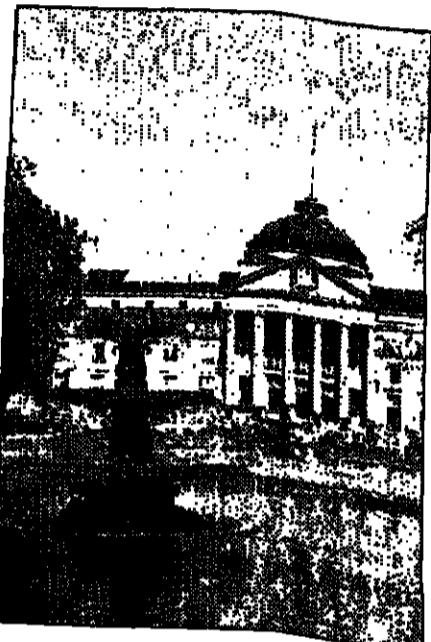
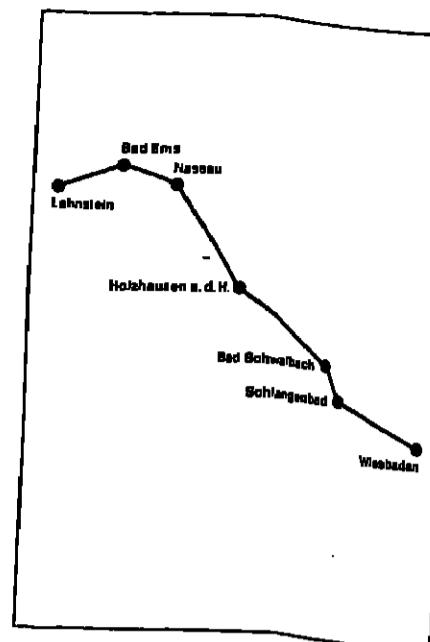


Routes to tour in Germany



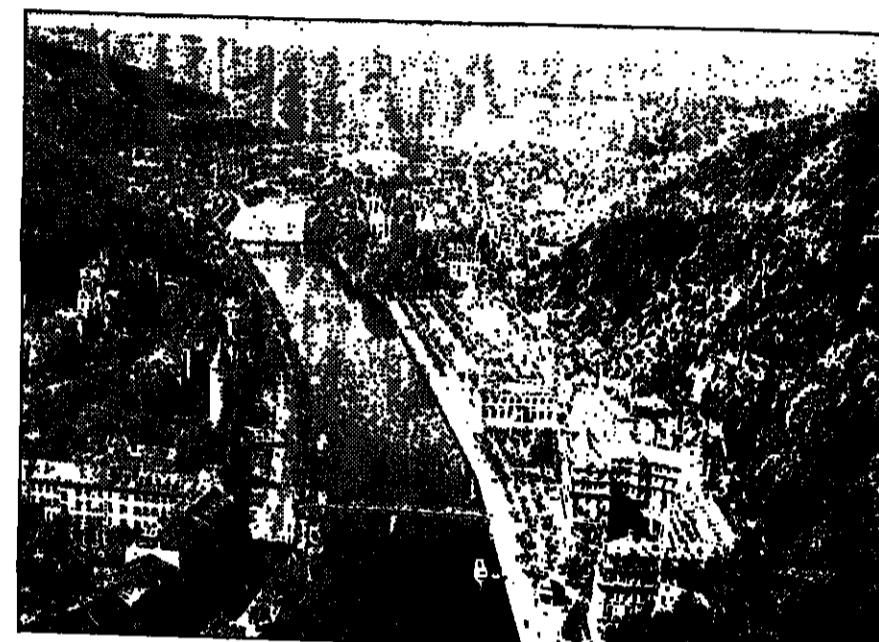
German roads will get you there, say to spas and health resorts spread not all over the country but along a route easily travelled and scenically attractive. From Lahnstein, opposite Koblenz, the Spa Route runs along the wooded chain of hills that border the Rhine valley. Health cures in these resorts are particularly successful in dealing with rheumatism and gynaecological disorders and cardiac and circulatory complaints. Even if you haven't enough time to take a full course of treatment, you ought to take a look at a few pump rooms and sanatoriums. In Bad Ems you must not miss the historic inn known as the *Wirtshaus an der Lahn*. In Bad Schwalbach see for yourself the magnificent *Kursaal*. Take a walk round the Kurpark in Wiesbaden and see the city's casino. Elegant Wiesbaden dates back to the late 19th century Wilhelminian era.

Visit Germany and let the Spa Route be your guide.

- 1 Wiesbaden
- 2 Schlangenbad
- 3 Bad Ems
- 4 Bad Schwalbach

DZT DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE
FÜR TOURISMUS EV.
Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.

The Spa Route



The German Tribune

Munich, 25 January 1987
forty-sixth year - No. 1259 - By air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Super polite superpowers restart arms talks

DIE ZEIT

The superpowers have been back on talking terms in a fresh round of missile talks in Geneva since mid-January.

They have resumed meetings and are alternating between the Soviet mission, behind its tall steel fence in the Avenue de la Paix, and the no less resolutely fenced-in US mission on the Route de Preigny.

Just as they did after Reykjavik the superpowers are busily proclaiming that the way to agreement is now open.

Yet so far they have behaved like two super-polite gentlemen blocking the path to arms control by saying "After you!" — "No, after you!"

True, both the Americans and the Russians are evidently interested in coming to terms but strictly their own respective terms.

President Reagan, under pressure after the Iran arms-for-hostages and Nicaraguan Contra funding affair, could well do with a foreign policy success at present.

For weeks he has been on the lookout for news headlines to overshadow the steady flow of revelations about alleged dirty tricks in the White House basement.

The two sides, President Reagan snid in his New Year's address to Soviet citizens, had come closer together than ever before.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is similarly showing signs of impatience. In 1987, he announced at the end of last year, he would be devoting his full energy to negotiating disarmament terms with the United States.

Colourless specialist Viktor Kapov has been replaced as head of the Soviet delegation by Yuli Vorontsov, an America expert and close associate of Anatoly Dobrynin, the central committee secretary in charge of foreign ties.

In Moscow official assurances are given that the Soviet Union is keen to come to terms with Washington while President Reagan is still in office, i.e. until the beginning of 1989.

We don't want to waste time until the next US Presidential elections in two years, Soviet officials say.

But what are we to make of the time that lies ahead? The degree to which this issue preoccupies action men in the Kremlin is indicated by their persistent questioning of Western visitors in recent months.

Western visitors have been bombarded with questions amounting to whether they felt a compromise might be reached with President Reagan be-

fore the United States is preoccupied with the Presidential election campaign from the beginning of next year.

"You know the Americans," they are asked. "What do you think?" The answer Mr Gorbachev has consistently heard will come as no surprise.

Only with President Reagan could he hope to come to terms in the near future, he was told. Only he could carry the votes of conservatives in the US Senate, where treaty ratification requires a two-thirds majority.

Henry Kissinger recently outlined the schedules for possible agreement. "To wait for the next two years," he wrote, "amounts in effect to forfeiting four to six years . . .

"A new President must first get his hand in. He has to appoint a new Administration. He has to establish relations with Congress on a new footing.

"On strictly practical grounds alone, serious negotiations would hardly be possible before the first year of a new President's term had ended. Even then it would still be a while before terms were agreed."

This line of argument has a convincing ring, but pressure of time does not always lead to readiness to compromise. Quite the opposite.

It now seems likelier than before the train rumpus that President Reagan will insist on SDI come what may and be kept to his policy line by his right-wing aides.

Defense Secretary Weinberger has announced that the first stage of an SDI system could be operational by the early 1990s.

"Reagan," says a close associate of the President's, "will never give up SDI. It forms part of his political legacy, like the Reagan Doctrine, fiscal reform and reducing government influence."

It would seem virtually out of the question that the ageing President, who will soon be 76, might be prepared to consider abandoning his convictions. He wants to come to terms but isn't prepared to abandon his pet project.

Besides, he probably couldn't do so even if he wanted. Robert Ellsworth, a fellow-Republican, former Assistant Defence Secretary and now one of the most independent observers of the

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As polling booths open . . .

Chancellor Kohl (left) and his Social Democrat challenger, Johannes Rau, make their eve of election appeals for voters to turn out in today's general election. Kohl's conservative coalition is heavily favoured (see page 3).

(Photos: Sven Simon)

have hinted just about everywhere that this point might be reconsidered.

What mainly matters, they say, is that no tests are carried out in space.

The crucial question, however, is whether the Soviet leader is willing — and has the political clout — to loosen the string of the Soviet all-or-nothing (no progress without strict agreement on SDI) package.

There are good reasons why he might be well-advised to do so. For one, the Gordian knot of linkage undermines the credibility of the Soviet claim to be prepared for disarmament.

A man who, like Mr Gorbachev, seeks to impress world opinion with large-scale visions of disarmament can hardly afford to split hairs.

Besides, the new precondition runs counter to earlier Soviet objections. Before Reykjavik the Soviet Union was prepared to come to separate terms on scrapping medium-range missiles.

The moderate tenor of the Soviet reaction to the latest US breach of Salt 2 serves merely to confirm the equanimity with which Soviet leaders, civilian and military, view the current strategic balance — the equanimity of someone who went ahead with his own arms build-up in good time.

Last but not least, SDI is no longer, to a large extent, the menace it once was for the Soviet Union.

Andrei Sakharov is now convinced, as are less independent Soviet experts, that "a powerful opponent will always find ways and means of outwitting any defence system in outer space — and at far less expense."

What is more, the clouds of uncertainty are increasingly descending on the future of SDI in Washington. Congress has cut budget allocations for the ambitious programme more than once.

Now the US budget deficit is weighing increasingly heavily, as the Democrats control the Senate as well as the House of Representatives and President Rea-

Continued on page 2

■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Canada has a dual role across Atlantic

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Canada, the old adage has it, was invented in defiance of geography and in defiance of the United States.

The geography is unchanged, but the rancour of Canada's early years has long been superseded by both adaptation and self-assertion.

"We are a European nation," a Canadian diplomat said in Toronto at a recent meeting of the *Atlantik-Brücke* with its North American counterpart.

This is a fact that threatens to be forgotten on both sides of the Atlantic.

It deserves to be recalled, just as appropriate conclusions then need to be reached.

If, then, Canada is both a European and an American country, it certainly follows that it must play a dual role.

In dealings with the Europeans it must first be the other North American, a part it last visibly played, from 1984 to 1986, at the Stockholm conference on confidence-building and security measures in Europe.

At the same time Canada is Europe's advocate and intermediary in North America, task it can fairly tackle as the second-largest country in the world with a population of 25 million, respectable political credentials and a sound economy.

In the post-war period the Canadians played their European role pragmatically and with sound judgement, and no-one derived greater benefit than the Germans.

The Canadians played a leading part in ensuring that containment of the Soviet Union evolved from a unilateral American commitment to a treaty system.

They were first to appreciate the con-

nexion between Western security and German rearmament.

They also made it clear that the Germans might be either the sinners of Europe or its defenders — but not both.

The maple leaf country now faces a twofold uncertainty in respect of trade ties with the United States and the strategic division of labour in North America.

In 1985 the Canadians, disappointed by Europe's failure to respond to their "third option" policy and alarmed by protectionist trends in Washington, sought to negotiate comprehensive free trade terms with the United States.

They did so against the background of a gradual transition from commodity exports to exports of industrial goods and 30 per cent of the Canadian GNP being export-oriented.

Eighty per cent of Canadian exports go to the United States (a 1964 pact ensuring integration of the automobile industry) and 75 per cent of Canadian imports come from the US.

The current target is neither a common market nor a customs union with the United States, both of which would call Canada's economic self-determination into question.

All Canada wants is to ensure that it retains free access to the US market.

Yet even this pragmatic, defensive approach is viewed as socially controversial in Canada. The long-term consequences for the Canadian way of life are viewed with even greater misgivings.

Canada attaches to its cultural identity the importance of the United States attaches to national security.

For 200 years Canada's cultural identity has been dominated by the clash with the US.

The Americans believe in market forces, the Canadians in strict regulations.

They always saw the Wild West as a nightmare, not as a dream.

The present negotiations will take years and their outcome is uncertain, arguably due — at least in part — to the doldrums in which Premier Brian Mulroney's Progressive Conservative government is currently languishing.

But the status quo is not under consideration as a possible solution to long-term economic changes. The United

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 1

can's star is paling, Congress is even less likely to kowtow to Pentagon wishes.

There is one last and maybe crucial reason why Moscow might choose to make less fuss over SDI. It is the Congressional endeavour to commit the Reagan Administration in its SDI programme to the narrow limits defined in the ABM Treaty.

President Reagan and his SDI supporters have been trying for over a year to break the bounds of this treaty obligation. It is, indeed, the only context in which what happened at Reykjavik makes sense.

What President Reagan wanted, as he has consistently stressed, was an unhindered authorisation to research, test and develop anti-missile systems in outer space for 10 years.

Testing and developing anti-missile systems in outer space is banned by the terms of the ABM Treaty. President Reagan wanted to negotiate an exemption in Reykjavik.

The Soviet Union would bear nothing of the idea and insisted instead on even more stringent restrictions.

Congress might now be in a position to build a bridge over the gap that was so very apparent in Reykjavik. As the White House referred to the classified course of negotiations in its bid to break

the bounds of the ABM Treaty a number of Senators demanded and were granted the right to examine the documents themselves.

Their report is expected any day now. What it will look like can be judged from the tenor of a letter by one of the Senators, Democrat Carl Levin, to Secretary of State Shultz in December.

The legal survey by the State Department's chief legal officer was incomplete and biased, he wrote, and the approach to the survey faulty from the outset.

Observers in Washington no longer doubt that Congress will to the best of its ability insist on the Reagan Administration abiding by the old interpretation of the ABM Treaty, probably by refusing to allocate funds for SDI tests that go further than permitted.

In future less will depend on how Washington and Moscow negotiate with each other than on how they behave toward each other.

Can Congress clip the Pentagon's wings? Will the Kremlin honour this by exercising restraint? That, at present, is the brightest hope of disarmament.

The first proof of the pudding will be in February when the United States goes ahead with its next nuclear test in the Nevada desert.

Congress raised objections to this plan last autumn, although it failed to do

Bonn goes back on to the Security Council

This year sees the Federal Republic of Germany back on the UN Security Council.

It last served a two-year term on the UN's highest executive body in 1977/78.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher rightly described the endorsement of the Federal Republic by a substantial majority in the UN General Assembly as evidence of international confidence in the continuity and predictability of Bonn's foreign policy.

They did so against the background of a gradual transition from commodity exports to exports of industrial goods and 30 per cent of the Canadian GNP being export-oriented.

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But the status quo is not under consideration as a possible solution to long-term economic changes. The United

Continued on page 7

the clash of interests in a world divided into blocs.

The Security Council has nowhere near fully exercised its peacekeeping potential.

Over the years it has left a lasting impression of inefficiency, half-measures and feeble compromises.

Accusations of reluctance to arrive at decisions, whether justified or not, have led to many serious conflicts not even brought before the Security Council.

Two days before Christmas, to take a recent instance, the Security Council was called on to deal with the Gulf War, which Iran and Iraq have wage for over six years.

Its sorry conclusion was that the escalation of hostilities was "alarming and regrettable." Both sides were called on to sound out opportunities of reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict in close collaboration with the UN Secretary-General.

It need hardly be added that such toothless resolution will make not iota of difference to the dreadful reality of war in the Gulf.

Even so, the Security Council's work is not in vain.

Peacekeeping operations manned by UN forces may not always have kept the peace in acute crises but they have definitely played a part in defusing conflicts and preventing unnecessary bloodshed.

The stationing of blue-helmeted UN forces in Cyprus and the Middle East is unquestionably a feather in the UN's cap even though modes of deployment might be improved.

What the Security Council and other UN bodies could well do is with the ability to prevent potential conflict rather than waiting until a crisis has come to a head.

Maybe the Bonn delegation will succeed in making headway in this direction.

Herbert Lehner
(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 2 January 1987)

the bounds of the ABM Treaty a number of Senators demanded and were granted the right to examine the documents themselves.

Their report is expected any day now. What it will look like can be judged from the tenor of a letter by one of the Senators, Democrat Carl Levin, to Secretary of State Shultz in December.

The legal survey by the State Department's chief legal officer was incomplete and biased, he wrote, and the approach to the survey faulty from the outset.

Those who want nothing to do with the Reagan Administration will now insist that the knots securing the Soviet package stay firmly tied.

So there are few signs as yet that either of the superpowers, both of which are busy saying "After you!" to each other in Geneva, will take the crucial first step.

The major problems of arms control are doubtless being sounded out.

Options for a later settlement may be discussed. But a breakthrough remains most unlikely.

In future less will depend on how Washington and Moscow negotiate with each other than on how they behave toward each other.

Can Congress clip the Pentagon's wings? Will the Kremlin honour this by exercising restraint? That, at present, is the brightest hope of disarmament.

The first proof of the pudding will be in February when the United States goes ahead with its next nuclear test in the Nevada desert.

Congress raised objections to this plan last autumn, although it failed to do

so in a manner that was legally binding. This time it might be tempted to restrain the President more effectively.

The Soviet Union says its moratorium on nuclear tests is conditional on the United States following suit. A similar approach has been adopted in the case of anti-satellite weapons.

Can arms control be achieved by means of reciprocal restraint? That would fall well short of the visions outlined in Reykjavik.

Yet it would be far from the worst solution for the interim until such time as Washington is back in business and fully capable of action.

Christoph Bertram
(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 16 January 1987)

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■ THE GENERAL ELECTION

The sound of stumbling is all that is disturbing the peace

DIE ZEIT

Rarely has there been a general election campaign with so little content. None of the parties has proved capable of really tackling the challenges of the day.

It is not as if there is a shortage of issues: East-West relations, arms control, environmental and energy policies, unemployment and the demographic shifts in West German society.

Two days before Christmas, to take a recent instance, the Security Council was called on to deal with the Gulf War, which Iran and Iraq have wage for over six years.

It is not as if there is a shortage of issues: East-West relations, arms control, environmental and energy policies, unemployment and the demographic shifts in West German society.

Admittedly, the fact that no-one can by-pass political parties to get into parliament ensures a functioning (in the traditional sense) of the parliamentary system.

However, the way in which lists of candidates are drawn up within the parties, i.e. without the codetermination of the entire membership or the electorate in the form of "primary elections", already produces an atmosphere of sterility and helplessness.

Political consistency seems to be in greater demand than political alternatives. But there are signs this will change after the election.

How, for example, are the Social Democrats likely to respond to a clear election defeat or the CDU/CSU to a clear election victory?

The final stage of the election campaign is very much a twilight zone between the pre-election certainties and the post-election uncertainties.

The CDU/CSU has been stumbling over its internal foreign policy dispute and the FDP has been vacillating between adapting to and dissociating itself from conservative voters.

The SPD seems unable to vacillate in the same way due to the paralysing effect of the postponement of internal discussions on fundamental issues.

The Greens can afford to stage the permanent conflict between the pragmatic support of coalitions with other parties and the fundamentalistic rejection of such a policy, since other parties are not interested in coexisting anyway.

The SPD seems unable to vacillate in the same way due to the paralysing effect of the postponement of internal discussions on fundamental issues.

Party politics has firmly established itself in many fields of public discussion.

The field of broadcasting is an alarming example.

Politicians have degenerated the electronic media into a mere accompanying factor rather than a countervailing power.

This trend towards conforming to party politics and its dictates can also be observed elsewhere.

Hardly a political discussion takes place in Protestant and Catholic academies without a representative of the parties represented in the Bundestag being invited to come along.

It was hardly surprising that the collapse of the SPD-FDP coalition in 1982 was not only accompanied by a CDU/CSU takeover of government power but also by the entry of the Greens into the Bundestag.

The period since 1982 can basically be described as an interregnum.

Over the years they have oligopolised the formulation of all forms of politics.

The excessive inflation of party-political funding is a major contributory factor.

The oldest candidate in the election is a 95 year old who is standing for the *Mündige Bürger* (Responsible Citizens) party. There are several candidates aged 18.

Details of the candidates were issued by the president of the Federal Statistical Office and Federal Returning Officer, E



■ GERMANY

Berlin grafts a new face on to its old urbanity

This is one of an occasional series to mark the 750th anniversary of Berlin this year. The author, Joachim Fest, is a historian and senior member of the editorial staff of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

For many years visitors to Berlin were struck by the city's progressive decline and loss of vitality. From one visit to the next they were sadly aware of growing paralysed and resignation.

These qualities were accompanied by a special neurosis that surprisingly seemed to deform even the hale and hearty character of Berliners, who showed signs of unexpected self-pity and lachrymosity.

A further factor was that Berlin had forfeited its special role and was felt in many quarters to be merely a tiresome vestige of German history and the unresolved East-West conflict.

The constant quest for a new lag for the city's role, a successor to that of a "front-line city" and "shop-window" on the Western world, is characteristic.

This sad impression has undergone a total change in recent years, and a series of scandals involving dubious friendships between politicians and the building trade did no more than temporarily and insignificantly dent the new impression.

Only a few years ago three governments in succession were forced to resign in connection with similar scandals. Mayor Diepgen has serenely survived the latest crop.

It has less to do with his personal integrity. His predecessors had that too. What is

different is that latest allegations of bribery and corruption came at a time of fresh and growing self-confidence.

Richard von Weizsäcker started the ball rolling toward this new self-confidence, although it is still hard to define just what he accomplished as Mayor.

Cynics continue to argue that he did little more than give his blessing from on high to whatever was done; but maybe that was just what a city racked by self-doubt needed at the time.

There has been a comparable batch of new ideas and fresh starts in environmental protection, city planning and the arts.

The arts have at times seemed threatened by a surfeit of public offerings, but standards have also been set by private initiative.

The result has been the city's new attraction, especially among under-40s, attributed to its openness and to its being a number of cities in one, combining contradictions ranging from seedy Kreuzberg to smart Kurfürstendamm.

Many released prisoners, usually sentenced to the West in buses, served sentences for attempting to escape to the West, mainly via Hungary, Czechoslovakia or Yugoslavia (very few try to escape across the extremely dangerous intra-German border), which is a criminal offence in East Germany.

Article 213 of the GDR criminal code, headed "illegal border-crossing," an offence also known as "flight from the Republic," provides for up to two years' jail for trying to escape to the West.

The accompanying problems cannot be resolved with the help of typical American leaning towards pragmatism.

This approach has become all the more pronounced in Washington during recent years now that the generation of Americans in political and administrative power has little in common with the

I, like many others, was quick to recognise the outstanding merit of President Weizsäcker's Bundestag speech on May 8, 1986.

In congratulating him I expressed the hope that it would receive intensive publicity.

Since then, having read and re-read the speech, I have come to feel that special efforts should be devoted to perpetuate his message.

— Arthur F. Burns, A speech and its effect, page 60

"A SPEECH AND ITS EFFECT"

edited by Ulrich Gill and Winfried Steffani, members of the Institute of political science, University of Hamburg, is an anthology of different opinions on President Weizsäcker's Bundestag speech on May 8, 1986.

The authors:

- Irmgard Adam-Schweitzer, member of the German Bundestag (FDP)
- Egon Bahr, member of the German Bundestag (SPD)
- Jitzhak Ben-Ari, ambassador of the state of Israel in Germany
- Dieter Blumenthal, professor of international law, Würzburg
- Arthur F. Burns, ambassador of the United States from 1981 till 1986
- Herbert Czeja, leading member of the refugee association
- Liselotte Funcke, Federal Commissioner for Aliens
- Alfred Grosser, political scientist, Paris
- Jerzy Holzer, historian and scientist, Warsaw
- Karl Ibach, president of the German association of resistance fighters
- Nevil Johnson, political scientist, Oxford, U.K.
- Petra Kelly, leading member of the Greens
- Lev Kopelov, Russian dissident and author
- Norbert Lammert, member of the German Bundestag (CDU)
- Werner Nachmann, central council of Jews in Germany
- Lorenz Niegel, member of the German Bundestag (1983-1984)
- Roman Rose, president of the association of Sinti and Roma gypsy organisations
- Wolfgang Seifert, political scientist, Kiel
- Winfried Steffani, political scientist, Hamburg

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Prisoner sales earn East cash and goods

Talk by Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl of "political prisoners" in the GDR has brought back to the limelight the longstanding ransom payments made by Bonn governments in return for the release of convicts by East Berlin.

Human rights organisations estimate that successive Federal governments have bought the freedom of roughly 50,000 inmates of GDR jails since 1963 in return for payments in cash and kind.

Views continue to differ on whether this practice must be seen as a humanitarian gesture or as a trade in human lives.

The prisoners whose release is secured in this way, and possibly they alone, are in no two minds on whether the trade is good or bad.

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This approach has become all the more pronounced in Washington during recent years now that the generation of Americans in political and administrative power has little in common with the

■ PEOPLE

Washington appoints new man to top Nato post

Frankfurter Allgemeine

pensive national defence policy priorities for the sake of greater collective security efforts.

Abshire views his main task in Brussels as that of maintaining close links with the Congress and the Pentagon.

For European partners he is thus a kind of "canvasser" for European worries and interests.

This certainly applies to the technical, economic and strategic questions dealt with regularly by the North Atlantic Council.

It is difficult to say how great Abshire's empathy for the specific historical circumstances in Europe is.

Abshire will be moving into the White House (with ministerial status) to take exclusive charge of gathering the documents on the Iran affair and thus trying to clear up the biggest scandal in the history of the Reagan Administration.

During the past three years Abshire has been able to convince an intractable US Congress of the need and meaningfulness of close military and industrial cooperation with the USA's alliance partners in Europe.

Americans often become impatient when faced by patterns of behaviour which have evolved from centuries of historical experience and when confronted by deeply-rooted national sentiments.

The accompanying problems cannot be resolved with the help of typical American leaning towards pragmatism.

This approach has become all the more pronounced in Washington during recent years now that the generation of Americans in political and administrative power has little in common with the



David Abshire... out.



Alton Keel... in.

(Photos: dpa)

political problems and whether he will be able to make use of the political side of Nato to exert a favourable influence on East-West relations.

This aspect has become more and more important since the Harmel Report was published almost 20 years ago.

For Europeans it is a yardstick for what can be achieved in terms of effective deterrence while at the same time credibly safeguarding defence.

This is particularly true when new stimuli emerge, for example, in the wake of the Reykjavik summit.

In no other post can an official representative of the United States get to know European security interests and European political attitudes as well as on the North Atlantic Council.

The reports passed on to Washington by the US Nato representative in Brussels can help to prevent the kind of political "parochialism" the "fathers of Nato" hoped to put an end to once and for all.

Jan Reisenberg
(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland*, 2 January 1987)

The new secretary-general of the North Atlantic Assembly, Peter Cortier, probably felt a little melancholy when he moved into the small neo-baroque palace in the Place du Petit Sablon in Brussels.

After all, this new start for 50-year-old Cortier also means the end (for the time being) of a dynasty of politicians in his native Karlsruhe.

Since 1953 the Cortiers have represented the Karlsruhe constituency as members of the SPD in Bonn; Fritz Cortier up until 1969, and his son Peter (with a short break between 1983-1984) ever since.

Moscow could then be in a position to spread its naval and air force units along the Norwegian coast, cut off Nato's northern flank without firing a single shot and prevent a seaborne reinforcement of troops from Western Europe.

Setbacks and rebukes within his party, however, left Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's minister of state in the Bonn Foreign Office with no option but to beat an orderly retreat.

Peter Cortier was a successful direct candidate for his party in his constituency three times.

The former mayor of Bremen, Hans Koschnick (SPD), once called Cortier a "complete idiot".

Cortier's withdrawal from political life has been in stages.

Before the 1983 general election campaign the regional section of the SPD in Baden, which had undergone a clear swing to the left, punished Cortier for supporting the Nato twin-track decision by putting him on a *Land* list of candidates.

What he asks, about the Americans? This, of course, is a reference to the arms-for-hostages deal by which Iran was to use its influence to secure the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

Ralph Boulton/rur
(*Der Tagesspiegel*, Berlin, 9 January 1987)

New start ends a Karlsruhe dynasty



Peter Cortier... dispute over defence

listen, the SPD's youth organisation, member of the Bundestag and the European Parliament, representative of the SPD on the External Relations Committee, member of the parliamentary party's executive committee and minister of state.

"I do not agree with important elements of the SPD's foreign and security policy," Cortier says today.

He was not willing to support the about-turn made by many party colleagues during the post-Schmidt era.

In his opinion the essential premises of a free and democratic policy for the Federal Republic of Germany are membership of Nato, nuclear deterrence and solidarity with the USA.

The Cortier family with its Huguenot background was already once forced to leave its home. He too is a much-travelled man, with excellent contacts in Washington.

His presidency of the Atlantic Association of Young Politicians (1965-1969) paved the way to the post he will now take up in Brussels.

Cortier, who will be moving to Belgium with his wife and daughter, is the first German to head the North Atlantic Assembly.

The organisation, which is not an official Nato body and which convenes once or twice a year, regards itself as a link between Nato and the parliaments of its member countries.

It compiles reports and forwards recommendations for the various parliaments.

Will Cortier ever return to Bonn as a politician? "A great deal depends on how the SPD develops," he replies.

Hans Kramp
(*Die Welt*, Bonn, 6 January 1987)

Real growth this year should be 2.5 per cent, according to the 1987 economic report approved by the Bonn Cabinet. It was probably the last economic policy step before the election.

It certainly marked an end for the time being to successive growth forecasts for the year ahead, some differing widely but all agreed in expecting the economy to forge ahead into its fifth year of largely uninterrupted growth.

Yet the economic outlook as forecast by both economists and the Federal government in its annual report hardly creates the impression of being a powerhouse obviating any need for provision against contingencies.

The 2.5 per cent real economic growth described as both desirable and feasible in the 1987 economic report sounds more like a tender plant that will need constant care and observation in the months ahead.

A point that weighs more heavily than all the crystal ball-gazing about growth rates and percentage points is that all serious economic observers are agreed that the economic upswing sustained since 1982 is soundly based.

Voters will largely pass judgment on the government's economic policy performance at the polls...

Experts agree that the outgoing Bonn government has laid a much firmer foundation for lasting growth and full employment than the governments of most industrialised countries.

One of the most unsatisfactory figures forecast is unemployment at an ongoing high of 8.5 per cent, or a seasonally adjusted average of about 2,150,000 West Germans out of work.

Yet the outlook for 1987 remains immaculate in terms of stability. The government is not expecting prices to in-

■ THE ECONOMY

Earlier tax cuts likely in effort to boost demand



Stockpiles of documents

crease by more than one per cent, subject to wage trends.

Yet despite the firm foundations on which the economic upswing continues to be based in its fifth successive year it is hardly surprising to see, in the new year's economic report, that the government is considering support measures.

After four months of decline in new industrial orders and output the risks that beset the official economic forecasts are more readily apparent than they were, say, in mid-1986.

This year imports and exports are still too pronounced and the number of newcomers swelling the ranks of the labour market is still too large for the number of people unemployed to fall rapidly below two million.

The latest revaluation of the deutschmark within the European Monetary System is arguably the least important risk factor German exports face.

Instead, Germans may soon after the general election benefit from the second stage of the tax relief package, worth DM9bn and originally planned for implementation in 1988/89, being brought forward to boost demand and give the economy an added fillip.

This presupposes that the economy takes a serious turn for the worse, which is not expected to do.

If it does, however, the second stage of the tax cuts package might even be brought forward and backdated to January 1987.

Gerhard Henneberg
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 15 January 1987)

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Imports and exports was strictly nominal, foreign trade being denominated in dollars. In real terms imports were up 5.7 and exports up 0.8 per cent.

Between January and October 1986 the Federal Republic also replaced the United States as the world's foremost exporter.

Last but not least, the cost of living index for the year as a whole declined by 0.2 per cent. The 1985 figure was 2.2 per cent up on 1984 and 1984's 2.4 per cent up on 1983.

The record foreign trade figures for 1986 are available in detail for January to November, with the December figures still estimates.

A striking feature is that both exports, at DM522.6bn, and imports, at DM412.4bn, were lower than in the previous record year, 1985.

The record export surplus was due to imports being down 11 per cent, as against a mere 2.7-per-cent decline in exports.

Hölder added that the decline in both

Continued on page 7

ence on world trade, including trade with the East Bloc countries.

So much of the economic impetus will again have to be provided by domestic demand, on which the Federal government sounds an optimistic note.

Many of the expansionary trends set last year, it feels, will only start to affect demand this year.

For many domestic consumers lower oil prices will now only have an effect, with lower heating bills resulting in repayments, lower monthly instalments and more purchasing power released in spending in other sectors.

Additional support measures are not ruled out but will only be considered if the extra domestic demand fails to offset a marked decline in export demand.

The final version of the report, however, unlike the first draft, makes no mention of the economic policy toolkit placed at the government's disposal by the Stability and Growth Act.

Government officials stress the point that this amendment means there will continue to be no old-style economic booster programmes or packages.

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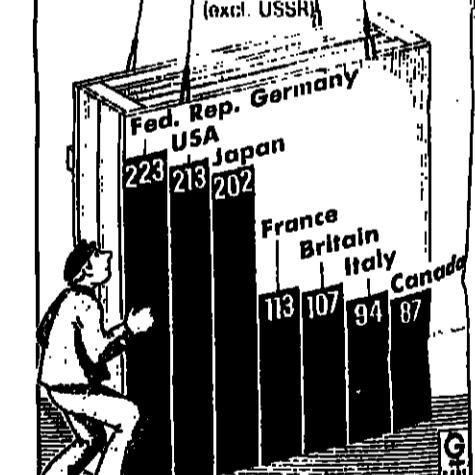
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Record export surplus and zero inflation in 1986

World's major exporters

Exports Sep. 1985 - Aug. 1986 in \$bn (excl. USSR)



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■ INDUSTRY

Prussian porcelain, a legacy of Frederick the Great

RHEINISCHER MERKUR

Porcelain has been imported from the Far East since the Middle Ages. It was expensive and called white gold.

The money was coined from silver tableware, to be replaced by porcelain.

It was a symbol of wealth and artistic sense to German princes in the Baroque period, the 17th and 18th centuries.

Augustus the Strong, Elector of Saxony (1694-1733), was one of the greatest collectors of porcelain tableware and figures of his period.

Frederick the Great was fascinated by it. He regarded its manufacture as an industrial enterprise that would bring in profits.

Friedrich Böttcher, an apprentice apothecary from Berlin who wanted to be a goldsmith, was kept prisoner at the Elector's court.

In 1700 he found a way of making a white, translucent cement by firing kaolin with feldspar and quartz, so discovering European hard-paste porcelain.

A year later the Meissen porcelain factory was established, and to this day Meissen is synonymous with high-quality porcelain.

The Saxon monopoly was quickly broken. Other manufacturers sprang up, firstly in Vienna and Venice, then in Höchst, near Frankfurt, Fürstenberg and Nymphenburg, near Munich.

The more sober and frugal Prussians did not go along with this distinctly royalistic taste for porcelain.

With his Saxon neighbours he exchanged 48 giant Chinese porcelain vases, collected by his wife, Sophie Dorothaea, for a complete regiment of cavalry figures.

This regiment, dubbed the Porcelain Dragoons, was, in fact, responsible for the victory over the Saxons at Kesseldorf in 1745, won by the Soldier King's son, Frederick the Great, in the Second Silesian War. As a result of this victory he got his hands on Meissen.

Frederick the Great was not as philistine as his father. He was delighted by the costly items of porcelain he saw at Meissen. In 1751 he commissioned a Berlin wool merchant, Wegely, to set up his own porcelain factory, but a few years later this factory was closed down because it made a loss.

Wegely was followed by Ernst Gotzkowsky, Polish by birth, who had a difficulty convincing the Prussians that the porcelain factory could be successful. He brought in workers from Meissen, but he also was unable to get the enterprise off the ground.

Having brought the Seven Years War to a victorious conclusion in 1763 Frederick

Continued from page 2

States holds the key to Canada's strategic security too. Ottawa has chosen not to conclude the intergovernmental agreement the Pentagon envisaged as lending international support to SDI; individual arrangements between companies are preferred.

Research is encouraged but Ottawa would like to see the 1973 ABM Treaty observed and is keen to see its provisions strictly interpreted.

The strategic implications are more important still. As in the Federal Republic, Canada now takes a third view of SDI, with 1970s anti-missile research and the replacement of strategy by vision in 1983 having yielded, since 1985, to reality increasingly demanding its tribute.

Protected deterrence is felt to be possible; more is not considered desirable, least of all a fast and furious race between US defence and Soviet attack systems.

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■ CONSUMER PROTECTION

Pensioner proves millions of heating bills are wrong

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Central heating bills paid by 780,000 German householders have been based since 1982 on inaccurate data read from devices installed by a Hamburg firm, says a Munich pensioner.

Otmar Steigleder, 63, a retired weights and measures official, has fought and, so it seems, won a one-man battle against the Hamburg company.

In his initial anger at the succession of inaccurate heating bills he was sent by Kalorimeta, the fourth-largest firm of its kind in the Federal Republic, there were times, a year ago, when he would have liked nothing better than to see his Goliat toppled.

But the company is still in business and, in retrospect, he feels that is perhaps just as well. "You can't milk a dead cow," he says.

Kalorimeta, who are responsible for billing 780,000 centrally-heated homes all over the country, is better in business (and able to indemnify tenants whose heating bills have been too high) than on the rocks.

He has impressively demonstrated how to take the company to court and seems sure to be right that settling claims will cost the company millions.

He has proved that the process Kalorimeta uses all over the country to assess central heating charges to be paid by tenants in apartment blocks is inaccurate and unusable.

The device to which he took such a dislike looks rather like a thermometer and is slotted between the ribs of central heating radiators. The heat generated makes liquid in the tube evaporate and the level that remains can be read from a scale.

Steigleder claims, and his claim has yet to be disproved, that heating bills all over the country since 1982 based on readings from devices using the Kalorimeta evaporation principle have been inaccurate.

He has helped tenants in the 780,000 apartments all over Germany for which the Hamburg firm assesses the heating bills to register their compensation claims.

He feels it is for the company to in-

stall new devices at its own expense. Replacing an estimated nine million devices should, he says, cost over DM30m.

That is why he takes a dim view of a letter Kalorimeta is now circulating to tenants. While admitting that measurements have been inaccurate the firm is trying to persuade tenants to pay the cost of replacement.

As the heating measurement devices in your property were installed over 10 years ago, the circular says, "they naturally no longer conform to the latest DIN standards."

"But from January 1987 we can supply you with entirely new devices that more than comply with the current regulations." Kalorimeta will be happy to replace them at the customer's expense, charging DM9.90 per unit, plus VAT at 14 per cent.

Kalorimeta's press spokesman, Klaus-Werner Frenzel, was not prepared to comment on the total cost of replacement but confirmed that his company plans to modernise the entire system.

"We are planning to convert and generally update our facilities," he says, "and will in the process be introducing a new, customer-friendly invoicing system."

It was now up to the Tenants Association and the Consumer Association to act and ensure that ordinary people were not left in the lurch. Herr Steigleder is determined to see the law amended to improve consumer protection.

He advises Kalorimeta to quickly permit the replacement of faulty meters in their homes free of charge and on the understanding that they are allowed to keep the old meters as evidence.

That is a point even Herr Steigleder must be prepared to hold in the firm's favour. "He must be fair for once and allow us a little time," Herr Frenzel says.

The Kalorimeta spokesman has no doubts as to who must foot the replacement bill. Customers must pay for the replacement of systems installed before 1981.

The company will foot the bill for equipment installed since 1981 — except where changes have been made to heating systems, such as fitting radiators with thermostatic valves.

Herr Frenzel says customers would be well advised not to harbour hopes of substantial repayments. Herr Steigleder had complained of heating costs being wrongly allocated.

That meant Kalorimeta would not only make refunds for bills that were too

high but also charge extra for bills that were too low.

When Otmar Steigleder heard about the circular Kalorimeta was mailing to customers he lost all patience with the company.

Determined to nip such "monkey business" in the bud he wrote letters requesting action and assistance from a number of quarters.

He called on the Central Association of Property-Owners in Düsseldorf and the Central Association of Cooperative Housing Corporations in Cologne to warn their members about the "dubious practices" of the Hamburg firm.

He wrote via the Bavarian SPD to the Social Democrats' business manager in the Bonn Bundestag, former Justice Minister Gerhard Jahn, who is president of the German Tenants' Association in Cologne.

He hopes Herr Jahn and his organisation will help him in his battle with Kalorimeta. The whole affair, he wrote in his letter to Herr Jahn, had reached a dimension that was beginning to overtake his financial and physical resources.

He reminded the Tenants Association that it had taken him nearly two years to prove conclusively that Kalorimeta heating meters didn't work properly, for which the company itself was solely to blame.

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■ ENVIRONMENT

Tree death tests in topless transparent foil wraps

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

Trees are being tested in controlled climatic conditions in their natural habitat to find out what is killing the forests of Europe.

Open-topped containers of transparent Teflon sheeting are built around trees and the ventilation is controlled.

Trees are dying all over the country at a staggering rate. The latest report says that 5.4 per cent of forest land between the Alps and the North Sea is seriously damaged.

No one really knows why. Man-made pollution is generally regarded by scientists as a main culprit in what is a complex process.

Nitric oxides and sulphur dioxides get a lot of the blame. Nitric oxide comes out of power station chimneys and vehicle exhausts. So does sulphur dioxide, the main ingredient of acid rain.

It is thought that they act in concert with the ozone which exists naturally in the atmosphere. But there is no hard evidence to back this theory.

Neither is there enough evidence to say that a substance applied to a tree under laboratory conditions has the same effect as the same substance on the same tree in a natural environment.

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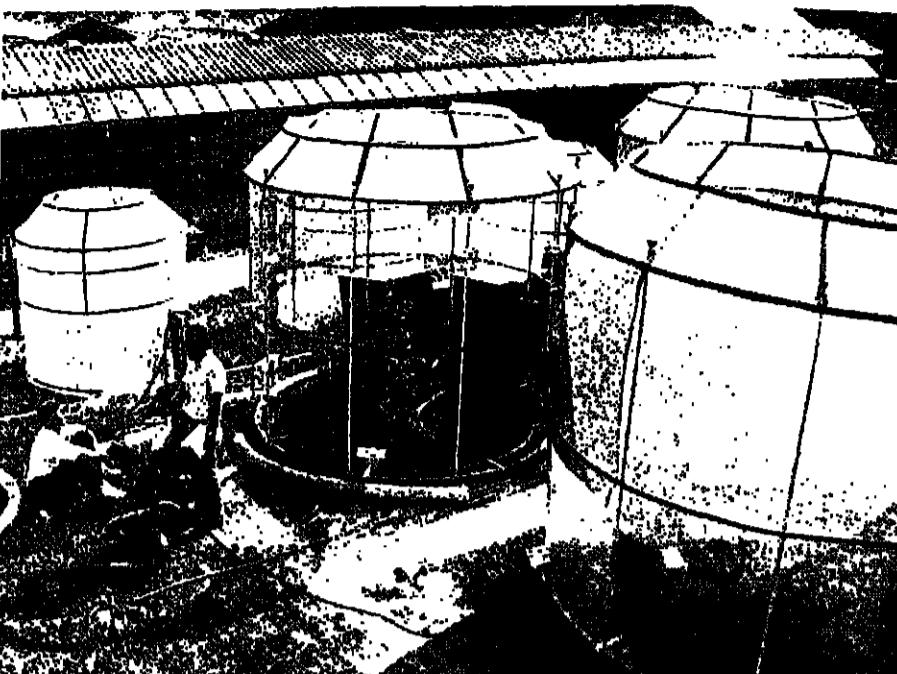
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Experimental Teflon foil pollution test tree chambers in the Black Forest

(Photo: dpa)

They are about seven metres (23ft) tall and cover a surface area of 20 square metres (360 square ft), so they can house fully-grown conifers.

They can be used for experiments over a 10- to 15-year period, as planned in Freiburg, and for observation of trees up to 20 years old in their natural habitat at Hohenheim.

The "open-top" technique is based on the climatic chambers used for over a decade in crop research.

The first open-tops are in use near Münsingen in the southern Black Forest and in the Welzheim woods, near Stuttgart.

The result of a preliminary survey by the Hohenheim University department of forestry research have been the size of chambers and the need for year-round operation.

The open-top chambers were devised at Freiburg forestry research establishment in the Black Forest and Hohenheim University, Stuttgart.

As expected, the effect of sulphuric gas on the mineral make-up of the young trees was devastating.

Magnesium and calcium deficiency in their needles led to the yellowish-brown discolouring that experts somewhat blandly refer to as "gold-tipped."

Painstaking chemical analysis of all sectors of the chamber from the treetop to the roots confirmed field observation that trees are very hard-hit by exposure to SO₂.

The effect of ozone, which is normal-

ly generated in the upper atmosphere but finds its way down to ground level was less readily apparent.

Artificial ozone "ventilation" alone was not found to have any demonstrable effect, but the noxious effect of sulphur dioxide was considerably heightened by an admixture of ozone.

That is a telling point against nitric oxides, which were not tested in the experiments, because they are catalysts that encourage the natural creation of ozone.

Oboe, short for open-top experimental chamber (in German), is the abbreviation for long-term experiments with fully-grown trees planned in the years ahead to find out what is making trees die.

The Oboe projects are two out of nearly 100 research projects subsidised as part of the European atmospheric pollution research programme (PLF).

The programme was launched three years ago by the Baden-Württemberg Land government. Run from the Karlsruhe nuclear research establishment, it has a DM36m budget.

The European Community is contributing a mere DM2m toward the cost of the programme, but this modest start is at least an indication of the European dimension of tree deaths.

Bernd Schuh

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 3 January 1987)

100-year-old beech is worth half a million marks

What is a tree worth? The value of its timber, lumberjacks and foresters would say. That can range from DM150 for a spruce to over DM30,000 for an oak tree.

A 100-year-old beech tree 25 metres (82ft) tall earns its owner a mere DM270, the equivalent of two to three cubic metres of timber.

Biologists and futurologists go by the economic cost of the work the tree does, such as generating oxygen.

A tree generates 4.6 tonnes of oxygen a year. It also exchanges 6.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

If this were to be done artificially the energy input required would be 19 megawatt-hours. That, plus the tree's work as a water pump and water storage unit, is worth DM315,63 a year.

A beech tree's roots and capillaries extract 30,000 litres of water from the soil.

Its waste, consisting of 55 tonnes of dead leaves and wood, not to mention beechnuts, is used by millions of organisms.

It is converted into humus by 2,500 worms, for instance. So the tree's value as a biotope is estimated at DM1,552,63.

The tree's work in extracting dust and toxins from the air we breathe is worth DM1,607,84. It is worth a further DM1,675,64 as a sunshade, umbrella and children's playground.

As a part of the natural habitat of wild animals, as climate regulator and prerequisite of nature's biological balance it is worth DM475,25.

On this basis the beech tree is worth over DM5,000 a year. So the work done by a 100-year-old beech tree can be costing at over DM500,000.

Wolfgang Thielke

(Welt am Sonntag, Hamburg, 3 January 1987)

■ SOCIAL HISTORY

Seven centuries of spectacles on show in Hamburg

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

An exhibition on spectacles at the Hamburg Museum of Arts and Crafts is claimed to be the first of its kind.

Wearers of spectacles were once regarded with derision, despite the help they gave.

Pince-nez astride the bridge of the nose tended to make the wearer talk with a nasal twang. Rims dug into the cheeks.

Frames made of metal, horn or fishbone tended to rub and hurt, so they were often covered in fabric. Other varieties, popular until well into the 18th century, had lighter leather rims that stayed in position.

Leather-framed spectacles, wrote Daza de Vades in Spain in 1623, stayed firmly in place, glued by body heat to the bridge of the nose.

Spectacles and their wearers were not taken seriously until the beginning of this century. They are still inconvenient yet indispensable, useful but a nuisance.

Many wearers push them back into place or readjust their position up to 250 times a day.

In the process they tend to pull faces, involuntarily screwing up faces, furrowing brows, turning up noses and tossing back heads.

The Hamburg exhibition features 400 models, posters, photos, film footage and a multivision show; it presents a cultural history of everyday aesthetics.

Despite 700 years of progress toward perfect precision in optical glass manufacture and lens-grinding, views still differ on which frames are best.

The museum's Nils Jockel says glasses come closest to the human sense of vision. They are a suitable example by which to demonstrate how important and how difficult it is to arrive at the right design technically and aesthetically for items in human use.

In 1985 a book entitled *Vom Elend des Brillengestells* (The Misery of the Spectacle Frame) was published in Vienna. It was the first and so far only study of glasses from the viewpoint of art history.

The Hamburg exhibition is the first of its kind ever held at a museum. Yet there has been no lack of speculation about the origins and uses of glasses in history.

Jockel looks in the amusing catalogue, into design history. In a nutshell he says that the lens has come ever closer to the eye over the past 700 years.

The tale arguably began with magnifying glasses that were laid on the written page. Only for the past 40 years have contact lenses been available as an alternative to glasses or monocles.

The art of false teeth seems to have declined and fallen with the Roman empire. It certainly doesn't recur in European historical records until about 1500.

False teeth were made of ivory and kept in place by braces.

Bone china was not used in dentures until 1771. Only then were more people in a position to afford false teeth.

Fillings remained a matter of how much patients could afford to pay. The rich had gold, the poor lead hammered into the holes in their teeth.

The missing mediaeval pince-nez was

found in 1953 beneath the floorboards of the choir stalls at Wienhausen.

It was a surprising find. Wooden-framed pince-nez were known neither from illustrations nor from references in writing.

The first glasses worn in pairs certainly date back to the Middle Ages. They are first referred to — in the plural — in Flanders.

In about 1580 pince-nez had a thread or chain attached that could be draped round the ear. Spanish and Italian missionaries took this variety to China with them in the late 16th century.

It proved extremely suitable for and popular with people in the Far East. This design is said in the catalogue to have survived there until the 20th century.

The history of glasses is rich in vagaries and vain attempts to keep them firmly and comfortably in position. In the 16th century glasses were fixed to hats or caps, but not to hair or wigs, which was how the lorgnette came into fashion.

Writing in 1749 Marc Thomin, a French optician, sang the lorgnette's praises: "We tend to think that ordinary glasses make people look old and cast the wearer in a somewhat ridiculous light, whereas lorgnettes can be worn gracefully."

In the process they tend to pull faces, involuntarily screwing up faces, furrowing brows, turning up noses and tossing back heads.

"Four-eyes" have certainly come in for more than their fair share of ridicule over the centuries. In the representa-



Mediaeval clergyman with pince-nez painted by Konrad of Soest, 1404

(Photo Catalogue)

tional and performing arts glasses long stood for clumsiness, scholarship, old age and — when worn by the Devil — evil.

They could also create confidence and convey an impression of seriousness and reliability. Advertising posters tend to stress this consumer bonus.

Glasses can be a mask. They can also be a window revealing both eyes and personality.

The exhibition emphasises this point with art photographs from the museum's collection, which will shortly be opened for public access.

This century reluctance to wear glasses has been largely dispelled. They have come into their own as a fashion accessory, a stylistic means of under-scoring the wearer's personality.

tion from the pain. Teeth were pulled without an anaesthetic, of course, and if the patient was lucky pain was all he suffered.

At times, with difficult, impacted teeth, jaws were broken. Pliers went by distinctive names such as pelicans and screws.

The idea was to pull the tooth by a turn of the screw, but often the tooth was in such poor condition that it snapped and broke.

Anesthetics were introduced in the 19th century, laughing gas being accidentally found suitable by Horace Wells, an American.

Laughing gas parties were held, with party-goers taking gas as a narcotic. Wells had a tooth pulled under the influence and discovered that it didn't hurt.

When he first presented his discovery to a gathering of dentists he used too small a dose and his patient yelled and ran away, making a fool of him.

Wells is reported to have felt this failure was a challenge. He experimented on himself for so long that he became addicted to laughing gas and committed suicide in 1848.

His pupils Morton and Jackson went on to discover how to use chloroform in dental treatment.

Saint Apollonia is the patron saint of people with dental trouble and, presumably, of the Cologne denture exhibition.

She had all her teeth pulled in Alexandria in 249 AD rather than abjure the faith at a time when Christians were being persecuted.

dpa

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 December 1986)

■ SOCIETY

Over 50 per cent of Germans workers drink on the job

About five per cent of West Germany's workforce is suffering from alcohol-related illness, according to an official survey. Of every 100 employed Germans, 52 drink at work.

Eleven of those 52 drink on the premises every day; four drink four times a week; 10 drink either once a week or every fortnight; and the remaining 27 drink on certain occasions.

Ten per cent of the workforce is well on the way to becoming ill — that's another 2.5 million. The survey says the army of boozing ill has trebled since 1950.

The problem cuts across class and occupation and seniority: factory workers, office workers; bank workers, civil servants and professionals, managers and cleaners. There are 1.25 million people, who, because of their dependence on alcohol, are 16 times as likely as other workers to take days off, who are ill 2.5 times as often and who are 3.5 times as likely to be involved in an accident at work.

Rita Russland, an official of the country's biggest trade union, IG Metall, says: "If it is accepted that the per head consumption of pure alcohol has increased over 30 years from three litres to 12 litres, then it must be accepted that every year the amount of alcohol consumed at work is also on the increase."

Some occupations have a reputation for being thirsty ones: foundry workers, glass blowers and cooks work in heat or dust. Journalists and company reps use drink as a social lubricant. He or she who sweats must drink a lot. He or she who mixes with people must drink a lot. Alcohol.

A report to the Bundestag suggested that the armed forces are sodden with the stuff. The same with the counter-espionage agency, the *Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz* (Office for the Protection of the Constitution).

In 1985, its third most senior official, Hansjoachim Tiede, did a moonlight flight to East Germany. He was an alcoholic. That became clear from the post mortems after the flight. A Social Democrat member of the Bundestag said Tiede was not the only soak in the organisation. There is talk of another 30 or so.

Some firms (Volkswagen is a notable example) have banned alcohol. But that is no guarantee of anything. The trade union magazine, *Der Gewerkschafter*, shows just what lengths drinking employees will go to get their fix on to the premises: using oranges as schnaps containers; using wire containers to store hip flasks on the body; building dummy second exhaust pipes on cars for storage.

So other firms take a less dogmatic approach. They say total bans are not effective and only annoy the great majority of employees who don't abuse the booze.

Another survey has discovered 180 alcohol rehabilitation programmes in firms and government departments in Hamburg, Bremen, Berlin, Hesse and the Rhineland-Palatinate. Electronics group Bosch is one. Others are Bayer-Leverkusen and BASF (mainly chemicals), Thyssen and Klöckner (steel), Schering (pharmaceuticals) and the company which runs Frankfurt airport.

They rely on imports from Zaire and South Africa, which between them enjoy a virtual monopoly in world markets.

Manganese nodules are blackish lumps that have taken shape on the seabed at depths of between 4,000 and

get their first drink of the day. That can become a habit. Then comes the dependence.

Christian Hedder, a psychologist who works at a Hamburg advice centre handling addicts, says it is not absolutely clear why some people can drink large amounts of alcohol without becoming addicted while others get hooked on small amounts.

He says stress plays a role. When people cannot handle work-related stress, alcohol seems to relieve the pressure. "But it doesn't. It only leads to further problems."

Official statistics say 11 per cent of all workers admit they drink too much at work because of the stress. Factors such as noise, temperature changes, bustle, dampness, for example.

Or the stress can be developed in other ways. One example quoted was that of an electronic data-processing specialist who was sent on a special project with several colleagues to set up a new company branch. They worked long hours from early in the morning to late at night.

Just to cope, they got into the habit of buying a bottle of cognac to go with their fried chicken in the evenings. Soon, the drinking started before lunch. The project was completed in six months. The worker went back to a normal, 40-hour week, but his drinking habit remained. He eventually lost his job and his marriage nearly went on the rocks.

The economic damage is heavy, not only because of days lost through illness and accident, but also because of below-par performance. Some estimates say the alcoholic is only works at 75 per cent of efficiency — in other words, gets paid 25 per cent too much.

If the arithmetical projection is taken, it would mean that a firm employing 100 earning an average of, say, 30,000 marks a year, would have five workers with alcohol-related illnesses working at 75 per cent efficiency — so more than 37,000 marks would be paid out each year for work that is not done.

The German employers' organisation, *Bundesverband der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände*, estimates the national loss at 17 billion marks a year. If the costs of accident and illness is included, the figure would be nearer 50 billion.

The huge electricals and electronics group, Siemens, estimates that alcohol

Continued from page 9

seabed table mountains in the Pacific. Known as guyots, they are tiny continental splinters in the oceanic crust of the tectonic plates. They occur at depths of between 1,500 and 3,000 metres and are coated in a crust of ores.

It contains between 16 and 30 per cent of manganese, between eight and 20 per cent of iron, less than one per cent of nickel, over one per cent of platinum and about two per cent of cobalt.

Cobalt is urgently needed to produce high-grade steel, super alloys and high-temperature materials. Neither US nor Japanese nor European steelmakers have cobalt of their own to cater for demand.

They rely on imports from Zaire and South Africa, which between them enjoy a virtual monopoly in world markets.

Manganese nodules are blackish lumps that have taken shape on the seabed at depths of between 4,000 and

costs it 60 million marks a year. In 1985 it paid out 10 million marks a year in sick pay for people known to be alcohol dependent.

A Berlin research group studied over one and a half years 5,700 employees in two civil service organisations in Bonn and found that there were 300 active alcoholics, 150 reformed alcoholics and another group of between 500 and 600 in danger from alcohol.

Bosch's scheme to reform the drinker is practised in its 42 works along lines drawn up in discussions between management and the works council. It was recognised that one of the characteristics of the alcoholic is that he or she will not act voluntarily. It is only when disaster threatens and there seems to be no other way out that he allows himself to accept treatment. So the Bosch scheme mixes advice with pressure and threat.

The employee first has an anonymous talk with a specialist worker at which he is told clearly that he must take treatment or get the sack. At this stage, the company administration is not even told. It will not be told, either, if everything goes to plan. But if the offender takes no action, both the company and the works council are notified.

New talks are then held and the offer is renewed with a four-week limit. If the offender still does not improve, a warning is issued and he gets another four weeks.

If still nothing happens, he is dismissed with the required period of notice. So the entire process for an errant employee can be as much as five months plus the length of notice.

Cases where employees first accept the offer of treatment and then return to their old ways are dealt with on merit, but usually the entire process begins again. Bosch have so far sacked no one under the scheme.

Such plans must necessarily be restricted in their application. Smaller firms cannot afford them. And more than half the firms in the country are small. Only 5 per cent have more than 500 employees.

But 52 per cent of the seven million workers in industry work for the big firms and so are beginning to be covered by rehabilitation schemes.

Perhaps the words of French aviator and author Antoine de Saint-Exupéry describe the situation best. He had one of his characters ask the alcoholic:

"Why do you drink alcohol?"
"Because I'm ashamed."
"Why are you ashamed?"
"Because I drink."

Hans J. Geppert
(Deutsche Allgemeine Sonntagsblatt,
Hamburg, 11 January 1987)

Continued from page 9

6,000 metres over millions of years. They occur in a density of between eight and 10 kilograms per square kilometre in many deep-sea basins in the world's oceans and are a virtually inexhaustible, poorly accessible, source of metallic ore.

They contain nickel, copper, manganese, molybdenum and cobalt, ore in percentages comparable to those found in continental ore deposits.

Cobalt is urgently needed to produce high-grade steel, super alloys and high-temperature materials. Neither US nor Japanese nor European steelmakers have cobalt of their own to cater for demand.

They rely on imports from Zaire and South Africa, which between them enjoy a virtual monopoly in world markets.

Manganese nodules are blackish lumps that have taken shape on the seabed at depths of between 4,000 and

It is not an offence to get on a train

Continued on page 15

Police patrol Hamburg's Underground

Police have been patrolling Hamburg's underground trains after 10 at night for the past three months.

Hamburg's buses, trains and ferries carried almost 600 million passengers in 1985. During that year 1,194 crimes were committed in the system. The main crime was damage to property, 342 cases, theft (331 cases) and grievous bodily harm (175 cases).

Vandals who slash seating, rip waste baskets from their fittings, break windows and burn upholstery with cigarette ends caused damage totalling more than five million marks in 1985.

Offenders are not often caught. Rarely do passengers have enough courage to report vandals.

The problem is mainly concentrated on the underground system, the U-Bahn and S-Bahn. Buses suffer less from vandalism because they are constantly under the eye of the driver, who can, in cases of emergency, call for help over his radio.

Underground trains are unattended as they roar through tunnels and along isolated track with the driver out of sight in the front of the train.

The number of crimes committed on the underground, in relation to the number of passengers Hamburg's underground system carries, shows that the city is in no way comparable with New York.

"But acts of violence in Hamburg's underground always hit the headlines, while street violence and trouble in pubs does not draw the same attention."

This is probably due to the fact that underground travellers believe that while they are travelling they should be protected by the city-state, but this idea has waned over the past few years as a result of drastic economy measures that have meant reduced staffing.

There are now vending machines for train tickets, replacing personnel who used to sell them. Usually there is only one railway staff member on a station to supervise traffic, supported by television monitors.

Quite recently proposals were made to operate trains by remote-control without a driver, but this was met with a storm of protest.

Underground passengers, particularly the elderly, get irritated and feel themselves threatened by the unusual behaviour of some travellers, particularly younger people.

Senior citizens get offended when young people aggressively pestle them for money for cigarettes, when skinheads or punk rockers push and shout about and when young people urinate through the open carriage door — a favourite way of demonstrating during.

One of the police officers deployed in the underground patrols said that passengers felt a sense of anxiety when young passengers got in the compartment, dressed in an unusual way wearing, for instance, leather jackets, army boots or belts adorned with metal studs, the Heavy Metal Look in the words of fashion designers.

Or when they get on the train with brightly dyed hair and eye make-up and they laugh self-confidently and cynically in imitation of actors in films of violence.

This conference was backed by the federal office for political education, based in Bonn, the West German Unesco Commission and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

A survey showed that 95 per cent of

■ HORIZONS

German Press coverage of foreigners is slated for poor prejudice record

Süddeutsche Zeitung

It set out to throw some light on the question whether the media did use its opportunities to support cultural exchanges.

The study found that news reports about guest workers were mainly negative. Turks came off worst of all.

Professor Hans Janke from the Adolf Grimme Institute in Marl brought out in his paper at the conference that the press had a duty to breakdown prejudice and correct errors. If integration were to succeed, the media had to play a leading role. It wasn't playing this role well.

The journalism students vetted 20 daily newspapers, including tabloids, and illustrated magazines over eight months. Their report has been handed to the government-appointed Commissioner for Aliens' Affairs, Liselotte Funcke, who acts as an official watchdog on the issue.

The project was supported by the Centre for Turkish Studies in Bonn. The report said it was clear that minorities are still rejected. The reason seemed to be entrenched prejudice. The survey discovered there seemed even to ignorance about why foreigners were in the country at all.

Foreigners who worked or sought asylum here were invariably presented in an unfavourable light, and Turks working in this country were shown in a particularly poor light.

According to the study "foreigners" were only regarded in a favourable light if they were tourists, sportsmen and women or artists of one kind or another.

Foreigners who worked or sought asylum here were invariably presented in an unfavourable light, and Turks working in this country were shown in a particularly poor light.

The German image of foreigners living here was described in a paper drawn up by an inter-ministerial committee some time ago. This document stated that Germans regarded foreigners as being in this country primarily to provide labour, but they were not regarded as a part of German society.

This observation has been consistently undermined by the much-used expression "guest workers".

Frau Funcke's department and others believe this expression alone has caused people to regard foreign workers as being in a social position of inferiority, not as members of a totally alien culture, albeit equal in rank.

The students reported that their study of press coverage of foreigners showed that the German public was particularly interested in foreigners when they were mentioned in police reports. At best performances by foreign folkloric groups was of enough interest to local editors to get comparable coverage.

In the popular press and the local news pages of newspapers foreigners were presented as being a threat to collective security or as people who just swelled the population figures.

The Münster survey showed that newspapers did not report the ordinary events in the lives of foreigners in this country, things that happened to foreigners generally or matters of cultural interest.

The Cologne conference revealed that television and radio did not do much better than the written word. Frequently in Cologne the comment was made that there should be an end to looking at ethnic affairs that shut out everything that was not German.

After 30 years of having foreign workers in this country the limited viewpoint of the media is astonishing as regards language and cultural matters.

In 1955 a West German-Italian

senior citizens and 83 per cent of women were happy to see police in the trains. Only seven per cent expressed displeasure at the arrangement.

Wolfgang Molle sits in the last carriage at the rear with his patrol dog, Karlo. From this position he and his muzzled dog can keep an eye on all the carriages.

Molle has noticed that young people keep a distance from him while older people chat with him, usually about the dog.

Thomas Vinsor Wolle
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
für Deutschland, 18 December 1986)

are still backward in covering this demand in this country, but radio and television have made a few steps in the right direction.

The first television programme (ARD) and the Second Television Channel (ZDF) have for sometime screened special programmes for guest workers in various languages.

The Cologne conference took the view that this was not entirely satisfactory because the duration of the broadcasts was not long enough and the broadcasts for foreign workers cannot be picked up in many parts of the Federal Republic.

Favourable frequencies are frequently overlaid by programmes of non-stop classical music for the benefit of German listeners.

Television broadcasts for foreign workers have for the time being been terminated because few guest workers watched them, and anyway television programmes for guest workers were often dropped to make room for live broadcasts of sporting events.

So the situation can be summed up as half-hearted solutions by ARD and ZDF and a disregard of chances to cater for foreign workers by newspapers and magazines.

The local broadcasting stations that are springing up all over the country can definitely fill a gap here, but even in Berlin, where there is a large foreigner population, there are no satisfactory radio and TV plans to cater for foreigners in the pipeline.

Very much to the point Otfried Jarren of the journalism and communications institute of Berlin University pointed out that the preconditions for providing an information service in line with a social welfare state, demanded and expected on principle by the German population, did not exist. The Cologne conference concluded by stating that from a language and cultural point of view the media in this country did little for ethnic minorities. This deficiency made it difficult, if not impossible, for these minority groups to participate satisfactorily in the social life around them.

But complaints about this situation are rarely voiced. Felix Rodriguez of the Catholic Mission in Bonn said that foreigners in West Germany were under considerable pressure to adjust to German conditions.

He said they are expected to draw as little attention to themselves as possible. If there is a will to bring foreigners out of their ghettos and integrate them into German society "West German editorial boards must take the initiative and reach out to these groups."

A whole list of recommendations were made at the Cologne conference. The West German newspaper publishers and the journalists associations as well as ARD and ZDF would be well advised to take note of the proposals made.

It was suggested in Cologne that newspapers should employ young journalists whose activities should be aimed at the second and third generation of guest worker families in this country. Radio stations should appoint a foreigner to make suggestions for broadcasts for foreign workers.

Journalists should also take note of language problems and not use it to put into the mouths of politicians words that smack of discrimination.

A representative of the West German Unesco Commission pointed out that the German press must take its watch-dog responsibilities in this matter seriously.

Christian Schneider
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 7 January 1987)